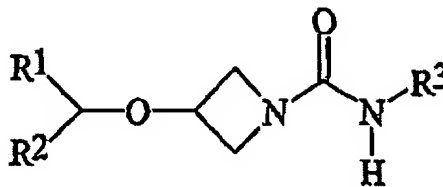


The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

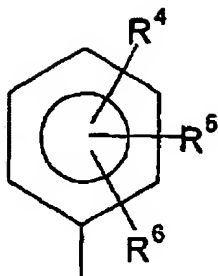
R¹ and R² are independently selected from aryl; and

R³ is hydrogen or alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof,

wherein at least one of R¹ and R² has a non-hydrogen substituent in the ortho-position(s) thereof relative to the point of attachment to the [-CH-O-] group.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ and R² are independently selected from mono-cyclic aromatic groups.
3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein R¹ and R² are independently selected from phenyl.
4. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~ wherein R¹ and R² are independently selected from a group of formula:



wherein R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, alkyl, thioalkyl, alkoxy, alkylsulfonyl, amino, mono- and di-alkyl amino, mono- and di-aryl amino, alkylarylamino, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, NR¹⁴C(O)R¹⁵, NR¹⁴SO₂R¹⁶, COOR¹⁵, OC(O)R¹⁶, CONR⁷R⁸ and SO₂NR⁷R⁸, wherein R⁷ and R⁸ are independently selected from hydrogen and alkyl or may form a 5 or 6 membered ring optionally containing 1 or 2 additional heteroatoms selected from N, O and S; and wherein R¹⁴ is selected from H and lower alkyl, R¹⁵ is selected from H, alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl and R¹⁶ is selected from alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl.

5. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1, ~~2, 3 or 4~~ wherein R¹ and R² are different.
6. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo and iodo.
7. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from alkyl, thioalkyl, alkoxy, aminoalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl and alkylsulfonyl wherein the alkyl group is selected from lower alkyl.
8. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from trifluoromethyl and difluoromethoxy.
9. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein one or two of R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are hydrogen.

10. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein R¹⁴ is selected from H.

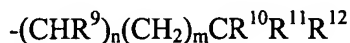
11. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are independently selected from alkyl.

12. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ are independently selected from lower alkyl.

13. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein R³ is selected from alkyl.

14. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein R³ is selected from tertiary butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl and isopropyl.

15. (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1 wherein R³ is selected from :



wherein n is 0 or 1;

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R⁹, R¹⁰, R¹¹ and R¹² are selected from hydrogen, alkyl, hydroxy, alkoxy, thioalkyl, amino, mono- and di-alkyl amino, alkoxycarbonyl and R¹³;

wherein R¹³ is selected from aryl, heteroaryl and non-aromatic heterocyclic optionally substituted by one or more groups selected from alkyl, halogen, alkoxy, oxo, aryl, heteroaryl and non-aromatic heterocycle.

16. (Original) A compound according to claim 15 wherein m is 0 or 1.

17. (Original) A compound according to claim 15 wherein n is 0.

18. (Original) A compound according to claim 13 wherein R³ is selected from cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, norbornanyl and adamantyl.

19. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from:

- 3-(2,4,4'-trichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2-thiophen-2-yl ethyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(cyclopropylmethyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-5-yl-methyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2,5-dimethylfuran-3-yl-methyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2,3-Dihydro-benzo[1,4]dioxin-2-yl-methyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(5-methyl-isoxazol-3-yl-methyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-[(R)-sec-butyl]azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2-bromothiophen-3-yl-methyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-[(S)-sec-butyl]azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(thiophen-3-yl-methyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2-methoxyphenylmethyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2-furanylmethyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(3-ethoxypropyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2-tetrahydrofuranylmethyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(exo-2-norbornanyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(1-phenylpropyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-[(R)-a-methylbenzyl]azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-[(R)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-[(S)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(n-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(sec-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(ethyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide
- 3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-[(S)-a-methyl-benzyl]azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(2,2,4-trimethylpent-4-yl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclopentyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2,2,4-trimethylpent-4-yl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-(2,4'-dichlorobenzhydryloxy)-N-(2-methylbut-2-yl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-2'-fluoro-4'-bromobenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(methylthio)benzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(methylthio)benzhydryloxy]-N-(iso-propyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(methylthio)benzhydryloxy]-N-(sec-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(methylthio)benzhydryloxy]-N-(benzyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4-fluoro-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4-fluoro-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(iso-propyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4-fluoro-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(sec-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4-fluoro-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclohexyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4-fluoro-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(benzyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzhydryloxy]-N-(iso-propyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzhydryloxy]-N-(sec-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclohexyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)benzhydryloxy]-N-(benzyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(trifluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(trifluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(iso-propyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(trifluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(sec-butyl)azetidine-1-

carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(trifluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(benzyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(1-adamantyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclohexyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-amyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-methylbenzhydryloxy]-N-(1-adamantyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-methylbenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-methylbenzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclohexyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-methoxybenzhydryloxy]-N-(1-adamantyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-methoxybenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-fluorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(1-adamantyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-fluorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-fluorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclohexyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(allyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(methylthio)benzhydryloxy]-N-(1-adamantyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(methylthio)benzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclohexyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(difluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(difluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(sec-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(difluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(iso-propyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(difluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(cyclohexyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-(difluoromethoxy)benzhydryloxy]-N-(allyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-fluorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(sec-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-fluorobenzhydryloxy]-N-[(S)-a-methylbenzyl]azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-2'-fluoro-4'-(1-piperidinyloxomethyl)benzhydryloxy]-N-

(tertbutyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide

3-[2-(trifluoromethyl)-2'-fluorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide, and

3-[(S*)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-4'-chlorobenzhydryloxy]-N-(tert-butyl)azetidine-1-carboxamide.

20. (Currently amended) ~~For use in therapy, A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1 and a suitable excipient.

21. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a medicament for the treatment of a disorder mediated by CB₁ receptors comprising Use of a combining the compound according to claim 1 with a suitable excipient ~~any of claims 1 to 19 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a disorder mediated by CB₁ receptors.~~

22. (Currently amended) A method of treatment of a disorder mediated by CB₁ receptors comprising administration to a subject in need of such treatment an effective dose of a compound of formula (I) as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.

23. (Currently amended) ~~A use of~~ The method according to claim 22 wherein the compound of formula (I) is in oral medicament.

24. (Currently amended) ~~A use of the~~ method according to claim ~~21 or~~ 22 wherein the disorder is selected from psychosis, memory deficit, cognitive disorders, attention deficit disorder, migraine, neuropathy, neuro-inflammatory disorders, cerebral vascular injuries, head trauma, anxiety disorders, depression, stress, epilepsy, dementia, distonia, Alzheimer's disease, Huntingdon's disease, Tourette's syndrome, ischaemia, pain, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, substance abuse disorders, smoking cessation, treatment of nicotine ~~dependance~~ dependence and/or treatment of symptoms of nicotine withdrawal, gastrointestinal disorders, eating disorders associated with excessive food intake, and non-insulin dependant diabetes mellitus.

25. (Currently amended) ~~A use of~~ The method according to claim 24 wherein said substance abuse disorder is abuse of nicotine, alcohol and/or opiates.

26. (Currently amended) ~~A use of~~ The method according to claim 24 wherein said eating disorder is obesity.

27. (Currently amended) ~~A use of~~ The method according to claim 24 wherein said disorder is Parkinson's Disease.

28. (Currently amended) ~~A use of~~ The method according to claim 24 for smoking cessation.

29. (Currently amended) ~~A use of~~ The method according to claim 24 for gastrointestinal disorders.

30. (Currently amended) ~~A use of~~ The method according to claim 24 wherein said disorder is selected from psychosis, schizophrenia, cognitive disorders, attention deficit disorder, smoking cessation, gastrointestinal disorders, eating disorders associated with excessive food intake, and noninsulin dependant diabetes mellitus.